



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING



MARIANNE UDOW
DIRECTOR

November 6, 2006

The Honorable Bill Hardiman, Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan State Senate
Lansing, Michigan 48933

The Honorable Rick Shaffer, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan House of Representatives
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Senator Hardiman and Representative Shaffer:

Sections 272(1) and (2) of 2005 Public Act No. 147 require the Department of Human Services to report to you on the result of the Title IV-E foster care eligibility reviews. Our final report for Fiscal Year 2006 is attached.

If you have any questions about the attached material, please contact John Sorbet at 373-7787.

Sincerely,

Marianne Udow

Attachment

C: Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Senate and House Standing Committees on Human Services
Senate and House Fiscal Agencies
Senate and House Policy Offices
State Budget Office

**Department of Human Services
Federal Title IV-E Report**

November 2006

For

July 1 - September 30, 2006

In compliance with Sec 272-2, 272-1
Public Act 147-2005

This Federal Title IV-E report provides the information required by Public Act 147-2005, section 272-2 and 272-1 (a-f). The Department of Human Services (DHS) has successfully completed its Title IV-E Program Improvement Plan (PIP). The final quarterly report for the period of August 17, 2005 to November 17, 2005 has been approved and submitted to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). After successful completion of the Title IV-E PIP, DHS has continued to make every effort to ensure compliance with the Federal regulations so that future penalties and sanctions can be avoided.

A. Training Programs

DHS Foster Care Program Office staff completed a statewide training on title IV-E eligibility requirements to Foster Care, Children's Protective Services, Juvenile Justice Staff and Child Welfare Institute Trainers. Additional training this quarter included Region II specialist, Oakland County and Western Wayne County DHS.

The focus has been changed to reading case files to ensure compliance.

B. Court Order Change

As stated in the 2nd quarter report, the State Courts Administration Office (SCAO) has completed the changes/updates to Family Court Orders. The forms are available on the SCAO web at <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/courtforms/juvenile/juvindex.htm> and to DHS staff as Word Documents.

These changes in court forms have significantly improved Title IV-E eligibility compliance. This is also the result of an ongoing cooperative effort between DHS and SCAO to improve Michigan's ability to support Title IV-E reimbursements/funding.

C. DHS Manual Policy Changes

No manual releases or L-letters were issued this quarter.

D. Recommendation by DHS Work Groups

Several work groups have been developed. The major one includes Supreme Court Justice Maura Corrigan and Marianne Udow. This particular group has been instrumental in bringing the Title IV-E eligibility to the forefront and ensuring the court and DHS collaborate to develop new policy, revise court forms, and review of court files and DHS case files.

A second Title IV-E work group will be planning for the secondary review scheduled for the week of March 26, 2007.

E. Federal Recommendations submitted to the State DHS and Courts

The Departmental Appeal Board decision was received and continues through the appellate process.

F. Federal Penalties assets for last review totaled \$320,000

Repayment of misspent money.